

B. Claims

Please amend the claims as follows. In accordance with the revised amendment format, a complete listing of all the claims appears below; this listing replaces all earlier amendments and listings of the claims.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-6 (canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) A chipper knife for use in a rotating wood chipper disk, said knife comprising a knife body having first and second opposed body surface portions, at least one cutting edge having first and second ends, and first and second angularly related guiding surfaces which extend at angles to said first and second body surface portions respectively and intersect to define said cutting edge, said first guiding surface having a varying angle along its length in relation to its associated first body surface portion with the angle adjacent said first end being greater than the angle at the second end and continually decreasing from said first to said second end; said second guiding surface having a varying angle along its length in relation to its associated second body surface portion with the angle adjacent the first end being smaller than the angle at the second end and continually increasing from said first to said second end, whereby the cutting edge angle between the guiding surfaces is essentially constant along the length of the cutting edge while the cutting edge is closer to said ~~first guiding surface~~ second body surface portion at said first end of the cutting edge than it is at the second ~~edge~~ end.

8. (Previously Presented) The chipper knife as defined in Claim 7 wherein said first guide surface is a timber guide surface and said second guide surface is a chip guiding surface.

9. (Currently Amended) A chipper knife as defined in Claim 7 wherein the cutting edge angle and the distance of the cutting edge from the first ~~guiding surface~~ body surface portion at the first end of the cutting edge and its distance from the second ~~guiding surface~~ body surface portion at its second end are symmetrical whereby the knife may be mounted in the chipper disk in either of two positions.

10. (Previously Presented) A chipper knife as claimed in Claims 7, 8 or 9 wherein said guiding surfaces are rectilinear in cross-section.

11. (Currently Amended) A wood chipper disk including a disk body adapted for rotational mounting in a wood chipper including a peripheral knife mounting surface, a plurality of wood chipping knives and means for mounting said wood chipping knives on said knife mounting surface; said knives each having first and second opposed body surface portions, at least one cutting edge having first and second ends, and first and second angularly related guiding surfaces which extend at angles to said first and second body surface portions respectively and intersect to define said cutting edge, said first guiding surface having a varying angle along its length in relation to its associated first body surface portion with the angle adjacent said first end being greater than the angle at the second end and continually decreasing from said first to said second

end; said second guiding surface having a varying angle along its length in relation to its associated second body surface portion with the angle adjacent the first end being smaller than the angle at the second end and continually increasing from said first to said second end, whereby the cutting angle between the guiding surfaces is essentially constant along the length of the cutting edge while the cutting edge is closer to said ~~first guiding surface~~ second body surface portion at said first end of the cutting edge than it is at the second edge, and said knives being mounted by said mounting means with said cutting edges oriented in the direction of rotation of the chipper disk and with said second end of each of the knives being closer to the axis of rotation of the cutter disk than said first ends whereby the first guiding surface follows as closely as possible an ideal timber-guiding cam curve between consecutive chipper knives and the chipper knife cutting edge has a varying angle along its length in relation to a plane of rotation of the disk such that the angle is ~~smaller~~ greater at the end of the cutting edge closest to the axis of rotation and ~~increases~~ decreases in the outward direction.

12. (Previously Presented) A wood chipper disk as defined in Claim 11 wherein said first guide surface is a timber guide surface and said second guide surface is a chip guiding surface.

13. (Previously Presented) A wood chipper disk as defined in Claim 11 wherein the cutting edge angle and the distance of the cutting edge from the first guiding surface at the first end of the cutting edge and its distance from the second guiding surface at its second end are symmetrical whereby the knife may be mounted in the chipper disk in either of two positions.

14. (Previously Presented) A wood chipper disk as defined in Claims 11, 12, or 13 wherein said guiding surfaces are rectilinear in cross-section.

--15. (New) A chipper knife for use in a rotating wood chipper disk, said knife comprising a knife body having first and second opposed body surface portions, at least one cutting edge having first and second ends, and first and second angularly related guiding surfaces which extend at angles to said first and second body surface portions respectively and intersect to define said cutting edge, said first guiding surface having a varying angle when viewed in cross-section along its length in relation to its associated first body surface portion with the angle adjacent said first end of the cutting edge being greater than the angle at the second end and continually decreasing from said first to said second end; said second guiding surface having a varying angle when viewed in cross-section along its length in relation to its associated second body surface portion with the angle adjacent the first end of the cutting edge being smaller than the angle at the second end and continually increasing from said first to said second end, whereby the cutting edge angle defined between the guiding surfaces is essentially constant along the length of the cutting edge while the cutting edge is closer to said second body surface portion at said first end of the cutting edge than it is at the second edge.

16. (New) A wood chipper disk including a disk body adapted for rotational mounting in a wood chipper including a peripheral knife mounting surface, a plurality of wood chipping knives and means for mounting said wood chipping knives on said knife mounting surface; said knives

each having first and second opposed body surface portions, at least one cutting edge having first and second ends, and first and second angularly related guiding surfaces which extend at angles to said first and second body surface portions respectively and intersect to define said cutting edge, said first guiding surface having a varying angle when viewed in cross-section along its length in relation to its associated first body surface portion with the angle adjacent said first end of the cutting edge being greater than the angle at the second end and continually decreasing from said first to said second end; said second guiding surface having a varying angle when viewed in cross-section along its length in relation to its associated second body surface portion with the angle adjacent the first end of the cutting edge being smaller than the angle at the second end and continually increasing from said first to said second end, whereby the cutting angle defined between the guiding surfaces is essentially constant along the length of the cutting edge while the cutting edge is closer to said second body surface portion at said first end of the cutting edge than it is at the second edge, and said knives being mounted by said mounting means with said cutting edges oriented in the direction of rotation of the chipper disk and with said second end of each of the knives being closer to the axis of rotation of the cutter disk than said first ends whereby the first guiding surface follows as closely as possible an ideal timber-guiding cam curve between consecutive chipper knives and the chipper knife cutting edge has a varying angle along its length in relation to a plane of rotation of the disk such that the angle is greater at the end of the cutting edge closest to the axis of rotation and decreases in the outward direction.--